

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
WACO DIVISION**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**v.**

**JOHN RUSSELL LIGHTNER**

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**CRIMINAL NO. 6:18-CR-187-ADA**

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION  
OF THE UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

TO: THE HONORABLE ALAN D ALBRIGHT,  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

The undersigned submits this Report and Recommendation to the district judge pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b) and Rule 1 of Appendix C of the Local Court Rules of the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, Local Rules for the Assignment of Duties to United States Magistrate Judges. Before the Court is the petition of the United States Probation Office recommending the revocation of the Defendant's term of supervision. The district judge referred the matter to the undersigned for the preparation of a report and recommendation.

**I. PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND**

The Defendant was convicted of Bank Robbery (Count 1 and Count 2) in violation of Title 18 U.S.C. § 2113(a). The Defendant was sentenced to a term of seventy-two (72) months imprisonment on both counts (to be served concurrently), followed by three (3) years of supervised release on both counts (to be served concurrently); \$200.00 special assessment; \$2,000.00 fine; \$9,351.00 restitution; special conditions ordered. Defendant was released to supervision on March 12, 2024.

On April 30, 2025, the United States Probation Office filed a Petition for Warrant or

Summons for Offender Under Supervision, alleging the Defendant violated the terms of his supervision and seeking a show-cause hearing as to why the Defendant's supervision should not be revoked. The petition alleges the Defendant violated the terms of his supervision in the following instance:

**Violation Number 1:** The defendant violated his special condition, in that on or about April 4 and April 5, 2025, the defendant failed to follow the rules of the Location Monitoring Program.

**Violation Number 2:** The defendant violated mandatory condition number 3, in that on or about April 7, 2025, he used cocaine.

**Violation Number 3:** The defendant violated mandatory condition number 7, in that on or about April 21, 2025, he failed to pay both his fine and restitution as ordered.

On May 13, 2025, the Court held a hearing on the petition. At that hearing, Defendant plead TRUE as to violation numbers 1, 2, and 3. The petition contained a sufficient factual basis to support a plea of TRUE as to all violations.

## **II. FINDINGS OF THE COURT**

Based on the sworn statements of Defendant and other testimony at the hearing, the undersigned finds as follows:

1. The Defendant violated the conditions of his supervision as alleged in the petition.
2. The Defendant was competent to make the decision to enter a plea of TRUE to the allegations underlying violations 1, 2, and 3.
3. The Defendant had both a factual and rational understanding of the proceedings against him.
4. The Defendant did not suffer from any physical or mental impairment that would affect his ability to fully understand the charges against him or the consequences of his plea.

5. The Defendant was not under the influence of any drugs, alcohol, or medication that would affect his judgment in entering a plea or that would affect his understanding of the basis, consequences, or effect of his plea.
6. The Defendant was sane and mentally competent to stand trial for these proceedings.
7. The Defendant was sane and mentally competent to assist his attorney in the preparation and conduct of his defense.
8. The Defendant received a copy of the petition naming him, and he either read it or had it read to him.
9. The Defendant understood the petition and the charges alleged against him.
10. The Defendant had a sufficient opportunity to discuss the petition and charges with his attorney.
11. The Defendant was satisfied with the job his attorney has done and had no complaints about his attorney.
12. The Defendant understood that he had the right to plead NOT TRUE and proceed with a hearing at which he could present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.
13. The Defendant freely, intelligently, and voluntarily entered his plea of TRUE to the allegations in violations 1, 2, and 3.
14. The Defendant understood his statutory and constitutional rights and desired to waive them.
15. The petition contains a sufficient factual basis to support the Defendant's pleas of TRUE to violation numbers 1, 2, and 3.

### **III. RECOMMENDATION**

The undersigned has carefully considered all the arguments and evidence presented by the parties and **RECOMMENDS** that the Defendant's term of supervised release be revoked and sentenced to nine (9) months imprisonment, with no term of supervised release to follow, and credit for time already served.

### **IV. WARNINGS**

The parties may file objections to this Report and Recommendation. A party filing objections must specifically identify those findings or recommendations to which objections are being made. The district court need not consider frivolous, conclusive, or general objections. *See Battles v. United States Parole Comm'n*, 834 F.2d 419, 421 (5th Cir. 1987).

A party's failure to file written objections to the proposed findings and recommendations contained in this Report within fourteen (14) days after the party is served with a copy of the Report shall bar that party from de novo review by the district judge of the proposed findings and recommendations in the Report and, except upon grounds of plain error, shall bar the party from appellate review of unobjected-to proposed factual findings and legal conclusions accepted by the district judge. *See* 28 U.S.C. 636(b)(1)(C); *Thomas v. Arn*, 474 U.S. 140, 150-53 (1985); *Douglass v. United Services Automobile Association*, 79 F.3d 1415, 1428-29 (5th Cir. 1996) (en banc).

SIGNED this 14th day of May, 2025.

  
DEREK T. GILLILAND  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE